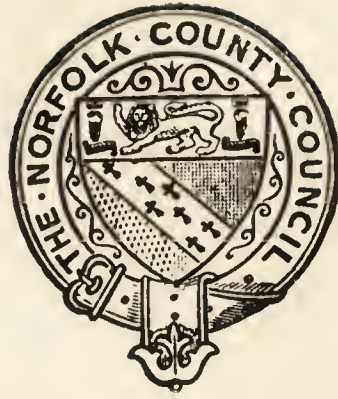


NORFOLK EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

*School
Medical Officer
for 1939*



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PREFACE.

This Report is the thirty-third of the series and the twelfth which I have presented. The delay in publication has been unavoidable and is due to the pressure of emergency work.

On the outbreak of war, the routine medical inspection of the Elementary and Secondary Schools was suspended primarily in order that the medical staff might devote their attention to the inspection of evacuees. At the same time, any Norfolk children appearing to be in need of advice or treatment were examined. Conservative dental treatment was also curtailed so that children needing attention for the relief of pain and acute sepsis could be treated promptly.

It is with extreme regret that I record the death of Dr. W. W. Wildman on 27th November, 1940, whilst serving with the Royal Navy. Dr. Wildman had been on the staff since October, 1938, and was held in high esteem by all with whom he came in contact.

My thanks are again due to all who have assisted in the work of the School Medical Service, particularly since the outbreak of war.

T. RUDDOCK-WEST.

Public Health Department,
29, Thorpe Road, Norwich.
December, 1940.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

for 1939

STAFF.

(a) CO-ORDINATION.

The outbreak of war caused a postponement of proposals under consideration for further joint appointments of Assistant County Medical Officers and District Medical Officers of Health.

The arrangements under this heading, which have been outlined in previous reports, remain the same except in the area covered by the Downham and Marshland Rural Districts and the Downham Urban District which are referred to under the next heading.

(b) GENERAL.

Dr. L. G. Anderson, Assistant County Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health to the Docking and Walsingham Rural District Councils and Wells Urban District Council, was called up as a Reservist for service with the Royal Air Force on 29th August. Dr. Irene B. M. Green, a full-time Assistant Medical Officer, was transferred temporarily to fill the vacancy as from 16th October.

Dr. W. W. Wildman, Assistant County Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health to the Downham and Marshland Rural District Councils and the Downham Urban District Council, volunteered for service with the Royal Navy, and was called up on 23rd September, but the vacancy for an Assistant School Medical Officer was not filled until 1940. The two former part-time Medical Officers of Health are carrying out his duties as District Medical Officer of Health.

The appointment of Dr. R. Louis Rose, who was engaged in making an ascertainment of mentally defective children, was terminated on 31st July, when the work was almost completed.

Miss N. E. Francis commenced duty as a dental attendant on 1st April.

A number of staff were loaned by evacuating authorities subsequent to children from their areas being received in this County. Dr. Marjorie E. Dalby was loaned by the Edmonton Authority from 17th October until the end of the year. She examined Edmonton children only, and was not in Norfolk during the whole period. Nurse Tonkin was also loaned by the Edmonton Authority from the 23rd October until 12th January, 1940, and the London County Council loaned Nurses Harvey, King and Thomas from 25th September until 26th January, 1940. The services of these nurses were utilised for both native and evacuated children. A School Nurse from the Tottenham Authority travelled with a party of evacuees to Brancaster at the beginning of September, and remained with them for a month.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

NUMBERS AND ATTENDANCES.

At the end of the year there were in the Elementary Education Area of the Administrative County, 453 Public Elementary Schools, 218 being Provided and 235 Non-Provided, having 486 Departments.

On the 31st December, 1939, there were on the school registers the following :—

36,783 Norfolk children, 1527 being under the "legal age" at which attendance should be commenced.

10,797 evacuees.

The average attendance of Norfolk children for the year ended 31st March, 1940, was 32,781, a percentage of 88·10.

New Senior Schools have been opened at Wymondham, Upwell and Stalham.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Medical inspection work proceeded on normal lines during the Spring and Summer terms. When, however, the medical staff returned to duty at the beginning of the Autumn Term, routine medical inspections were abandoned in order that the staff might devote themselves to the special problems created by the reception of approximately 17,000 evacuated school children.

305 departments had a routine inspection during the two terms, 205 departments were visited during the year for the purpose of re-examining children previously found to be defective, and in 10 cases a second visit was paid for a similar purpose.

The total number (7375) of routine inspections (see page 21) is rather less than two-thirds of the estimated number of children who should have had such an inspection during the year.

The number of special inspections and re-inspections is 6506 more than the previous year and includes both native and evacuated children. This increase is explained by the fact that all children examined during the Autumn term were under these headings.

FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

10·79% of the children examined at routine inspections had a defect requiring treatment (other than defects of nutrition, uncleanliness and dental diseases). This compares very favourably with 13·77% for the previous year.

A detailed statement of the defects discovered at medical inspection will be found in Table II, on pages 22 and 23.

(a) Malnutrition.

0·31% of the children examined in the routine age groups were classified as having "bad" nutrition. This compares with 0·12% for 1938. 14·66% had "slightly sub-normal" nutrition, compared with 15·05% for the previous year.

The following table shows the percentage of children in the various nutrition classifications since this system was first started:—

Year		A (Excellent).	B (Normal).	C (Slightly sub-normal).	D (Bad).
1935	...	17·5	68·2	13·8	0·5
1936	...	12·4	73·1	14·1	0·4
1937	...	11·1	74·3	14·4	0·2
1938	...	12·3	72·5	15·1	0·1
1939	...	16·2	68·8	14·7	0·3

It will be noticed that the percentage of children with sub-normal nutrition showed a slight increase from 1935 to 1938 and has dropped by only 0·2% this year. The percentage is still 0·7 above 1935. With so many children now having milk at school it might have been expected that a considerable decrease would have been noted, but from a statistical point of view this is not so. It is suggested, however, that there has actually been a decided improvement and the reason why this is not indicated by the figures is that there has also been a raising of the standard by which subnormality is assessed.

(b) Uncleanliness.

Very little uncleanliness was noted amongst Norfolk children by the Assistant Medical Officers at routine medical inspection. Full particulars of the work done by School Nurses under this heading will be found on page 8.

(c) Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.

Comparatively few cases were discovered at the routine inspections. Most of the children suffering from these complaints were seen as “specials” at the Minor Ailments Clinics. The large proportion of evacuees will be noted.

(d) Other Defects.

Whilst there is a decrease under most headings, this is particularly noticeable in connection with nose and throat defects needing treatment.

INSPECTION AND TREATMENT OF EVACUEES.

This work, so far as the medical and nursing staff were concerned, fell mainly under two headings:—

- (i.) General surveys of children at schools.
- (ii.) Treatment at Minor Ailments Clinics.

With regard to the former, in view of the pressure of work at the time, no detailed figures are available, but all children were inspected at the earliest possible date. If children in a certain place appeared to need early attention, an Assistant Medical Officer and/or Nurse were asked to follow up. The Assistant Medical Officers also made systematic surveys of the evacuees in their areas. Where information was received that accommodation in schools or hired buildings was inadequate and sanitary arrangements in the latter unsatisfactory, the necessary steps were taken to effect improvements.

Additional minor ailment clinics were established at 31 centres, and 228 sessions were held during the Autumn Term at these clinics and the 7 clinics which function in normal times. An Assistant Medical Officer was present on 82 occasions. Travelling is one of the chief deterrents to attendance at clinics in a rural area, and at some of the smaller places the clinics were discontinued as soon as the initial rush had subsided.

As will be noted from the tables on page 9, scabies, impetigo and verminous heads showed a marked increase. This was mainly due to the problems caused by the reception of children from evacuation areas at the end of a holiday period.

Eneuresis was also very common and a proportion of such cases were dealt with in hostels established by the Local Receiving Authorities and by the County Council.

Treatment which could be obtained through the Committee's Schemes was available for the evacuees and is referred to in other parts of this Report.

FOLLOWING UP.

These arrangements continue as before.

WORK OF THE NURSES.

(Figures in brackets refer to evacuees and are included in corresponding figures not in brackets.)

(a) Minor Ailments.

In addition to the seven fully equipped clinics at Aylsham, Dereham, Fakenham, Terrington St. Clement, North Walsham, Wells and Wymondham, clinics were established, after the reception of evacuees, at 31 centres. Some of these were on school premises and in other cases suitable rooms were hired. After a time the need for these appeared to be considerably lessened and many were discontinued. Clinics are held each week for one session. The work thus carried out is shewn on page 9, together with particulars of those children treated at school or home. (See also Table IV, page 24.)

(b) Surveys of Children for Uncleanliness.

Number of visits to schools	...	...	...	2,734	
Total number of examinations	...	...	...	171,692	(31,861)
Number of individual children found unclean (i.e., vermin or nits)	...	...	...	4,546	(2,891)
Number of children excluded at the Nurses' visits	...	...	...	87	(16)
Number of Special Warning Letters <i>re</i> Nits sent to parents	...	...	...	7	(—)
Number of letters sent on first exclusion	...	...	...	22	(—)
Number of "Final Warning" Letters sent to parents...	...	...	...	5	(—)
Number of homes visited	...	...	...	637	(161)
Result of "following up"—					
Clean	...	...	...	1,364	(930)
Improved	...	...	...	3,180	(1,961)
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	2	(—)

(c) **Miscellaneous.**

The services of the nurses are utilised in following up individual cases of definite and suspected infectious and contagious disease and conducting general surveys of all children at school for the presence of infection. They follow up after medical inspection, visit the parents of children for whom dental treatment has been refused, fit spectacle frames and assist occasionally at medical inspections and also at Eye and Dental Clinics.

MEDICAL TREATMENT.

(Figures in brackets refer to evacuees and are included in corresponding figures not in brackets.)

Under Education Committee's Scheme.

(i.) **Minor Ailments** treated at School Clinics (see page 8).

Disease.	Individual children treated.	Cured.	Still to attend.	Left or refused treatment.	Total attendances at clinic.
Impetigo ...	650 (333)	574 (286)	53 (24)	23 (23)	1998 (1030)
Scabies ...	26 (21)	10 (6)	7 (6)	9 (9)	62 (39)
Ringworm—					
Scalp ...	—	—	—	—	—
Body ...	10 (2)	9 (2)	1 (—)	—	30 (6)
Other Skin Diseases ...	400 (89)	278 (50)	108 (32)	14 (7)	2780 (276)
Minor Injuries	1237 (338)	1127 (287)	83 (29)	27 (22)	3068 (843)
Discharging Ears ...	66 (41)	18 (8)	34 (22)	14 (11)	423 (223)
Other Ear Diseases ...	28 (11)	18 (7)	9 (3)	1 (1)	113 (37)
Blepharitis ...	59 (18)	35 (12)	23 (6)	1 (—)	517 (84)
Conjunctivitis	18 (6)	16 (6)	2 (—)	—	62 (24)
Other Eye Diseases ...	77 (18)	63 (12)	11 (6)	3 (—)	174 (32)
Enlarged Glands	31 (11)	14 (4)	14 (4)	3 (3)	167 (29)
Verminous ...	461 (388)	340 (288)	54 (33)	67 (67)	1874 (1501)
Miscellaneous	596 (291)	490 (230)	74 (34)	32 (27)	1813 (833)
Totals ...	3659 (1567)	2992 (1198)	473 (199)	194 (170)	13081 (4957)

(ii.) **Minor Ailments** treated at School or Home.

Disease.	No. of cases followed up.	Cured.	Still under treatment.
Impetigo ...	575 (243)	557 (241)	18 (2)
Scabies ...	78 (44)	71 (41)	7 (3)
Ringworm—Scalp ...	33 (6)	9 (1)	24 (5)
Do. Body ...	23 (5)	14 (4)	9 (1)
Other Skin Diseases ...	98 (40)	81 (31)	17 (9)
Ear Diseases ...	88 (42)	28 (18)	60 (24)
Eye Diseases ...	121 (24)	83 (21)	38 (4)
Minor Injuries ...	409 (156)	408 (156)	1 (—)
Miscellaneous ...	432 (205)	429 (202)	3 (3)
Totals	1857 (765)	1680 (715)	177 (52)

(iii.) Defective Vision.

154 refraction clinics were held by Assistant Medical Officers at 93 centres, and 507 (25) cases were examined by retinoscopy. 11 cases were referred to Ophthalmic Specialists; glasses were prescribed for 430 (25) children, and in the remaining 66 instances glasses were not advised. By the end of the year, glasses had been supplied for 367 (9) children, leaving 62 (*15) cases outstanding.

1 Remand Home case was also refracted; glasses were prescribed and supplied during the year.

210 (7) vouchers were issued on Ophthalmic Specialists and 15 on approved General Practitioners, and of these 18 were not used during the year. Of the remainder:—

Glasses were prescribed and obtained in 154 (7) cases.

Glasses were prescribed but not obtained in 2 cases.

Glasses were not considered necessary in 51 cases.

4 children were referred to Specialists for an opinion as to whether they were suitable for education in a Public Elementary School or should be admitted to a Certified School for Blind or Partially Sighted Children.

*1 case obtained glasses privately.

(iv.) Nose and Throat Defects.

No alteration has been made in the arrangements which are in force for the treatment of these defects.

371 (3) vouchers were issued during the year.

253 (2) vouchers authorising operative treatment were issued on General and Cottage Hospitals and 118 (1) on general practitioners. 103 of these were outstanding at the end of the year.

Of the 360 (2) children (including cases for whom vouchers were issued prior to 1939) known during the year to have been treated, 113 (1) were treated by approved practitioners as follows:—

At Doctor's Surgery	...	...	...	46
„ Cottage Hospital	...	...	...	51 (1)
„ Patient's Home	...	...	...	5
„ Nursing Home	...	...	...	11

In addition to the treatment already mentioned, 15 children were referred to the Consulting Aural Surgeons for advice.

(v.) Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.

10 children with defective hearing and 5 (1) with otitis media have been examined by the Consulting Aural Surgeons and treated in accordance with their instructions. 12 (5) cases of otorrhœa have been treated through the Committee's Scheme by District Nurses; 3 have been cured, 1 child was lost sight of, and in the remaining cases treatment is being continued.

(vi.) Heart Disease.

The Authority has no scheme for the treatment of children with heart disease. Restriction of physical exercise and rest in school is advised in appropriate cases.

(vii.) **Tuberculosis.**

Children suffering or suspected to be suffering from tuberculosis are referred for examination under the County Council's Tuberculosis Scheme if they are not already under observation.

(viii.) **Ringworm of the Scalp.**

4 children received X-ray treatment.

(ix.) **Alopecia.**

1 child had ultra violet light treatment from a general practitioner.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

The staff remains the same as in 1938 with the addition of a second dental attendant who commenced duty in April.

Routine treatment was carried out in five trailer-surgeries, two horse-drawn vans and in the medical rooms of all the new senior and area schools. The number of monthly fixed clinics was increased from 2 to 15. These clinics are evenly distributed over the county and have proved a valuable extension of the dental scheme. Cases requiring urgent or prolonged treatment can be dealt with at these centres without unnecessary delay or waste of the dentists' time.

Work was carried out normally until September, when the arrival of several thousand evacuee children necessitated a considerable curtailment of treatment, especially fillings. With a proportion of one dentist to nearly ten thousand children, it became obvious that only treatment for the relief of pain and acute sepsis could be reasonably undertaken and cursory inspections were generally carried out in order to discover the presence of these conditions.

By the end of the year, a large percentage of the evacuees had returned to their homes, and it was then thought desirable gradually to return to normal practice, especially in view of promised additional help to cope with the remaining evacuee patients.

Considerable delay was at first experienced in obtaining parental consent to the treatment of evacuees. In order to avoid this, it was decided that treatment could be given in ordinary cases after consultation with the appropriate Authorities and the local teacher in charge. Parental consent, however, was invariably obtained before operation in all cases of known former refusal, in cases where the administration of a general anæsthetic was indicated, and where the evacuating Authority declined to authorise treatment without reference to the parents. This common-sense scheme has proved quite satisfactory, and the parents of evacuees frequently express their appreciation of the dental work done for their children. Incidentally, the treatment of these children has proved of great interest and pleasure to the dental staff.

When examining the details of the work set forth in Table V, page 26, the drastically altered conditions which existed from September onwards must be borne in mind; but an interesting fact which emerges from these statistics is that war-time conditions have, so far, had no adverse effect on results. The percentage of acceptances (57·57) remains practically the same as in 1938, thanks to the co-operation of both native and evacuee teaching staffs.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Arrangements for the prevention and control of infectious disease continue as previously outlined.

During the year there were 208 closures, involving 177 departments. The diseases responsible and the number of school days lost were:—

Disease.	No. of Closures.	No. of School days lost.
Influenza, coughs and colds ...	195	995
Whooping cough, coughs and colds	7	49½
Mumps, coughs and colds ...	2	14
Chicken pox, coughs and colds	2	11½
Suspected scarlet fever ...	1	2
Disinfection of premises ...	1	1
	208	1073

215 certificates in respect of 116 departments were issued where the attendance fell below 60% and was reasonably attributable to the prevalence of epidemic disease. The diseases responsible were:—

Chicken pox 9	Mumps 29
Coughs, colds and in- fluenza 104	Scarlet fever 2
Diphtheria 1	Whooping cough ... 56
Measles 2	Mixed infections ... 12

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

No alterations have been made in the administration of this Scheme during the year.

(i.) Ascertainment.

264 new cases were added to the Register during the year, and 66 cases have been transferred from the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of the Scheme, having commenced school attendance or attained the age of 5 years.

(ii.) Clinics held by the Orthopædic Surgeon.

33 clinics were held during the year, 16 at the Jenny Lind Hospital, 6 at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, 8 at King's Lynn, and 3 at Melton Lodge. 121 new cases were examined and 261 re-examinations made, making a total of 382 cases seen by the Surgeon.

(iii.) Institutional Treatment.

14 cases were receiving treatment at the commencement of the year, and 54 others were admitted during the year. 8 children were in institutions at the end of the year, and 31 were awaiting admission.

The defects treated were :—

Defect.	INSTITUTION					Total treated.	
	St. James Balham	Royal National.	Jenny Lind.	Norfolk and Norwich.	Melton Lodge.	Defects.	Children.
Spastic paralysis ...	—	—	—	1	1	2	*
Infantile paralysis ...	—	—	2	—	3	5	4
Deformities of feet ...	—	1	4	7	1	13	13
Rheumatoid arthritis ...	—	—	—	2	2	4	4
Scoliosis ...	—	—	2	—	1	3	3
Torticollis ...	—	—	3	1	—	4	4
Hip deformities ...	—	—	1	—	2	3	2
Osteomyelitis ...	—	—	2	5	5	12	7
Toe deformities ...	—	—	1	6	—	7	7
Miscellaneous ...	1	—	6	5	3	15	13
TOTALS ...	1	1	21	27	18	68	58

*The figures in this column represent the number of individual cases. Many of the patients received treatment at the Jenny Lind or Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and Melton Lodge.

The 58 children treated in Hospital occupied beds for a total number of 4789 days, the equivalent of approximately 13 beds occupied throughout the year.

The Orthopædic Home (Melton Lodge), transferred to Cawston Manor on the 2nd September, continues to fill an important part in the scheme, and is utilised to the full.

(iv.) Supply of Surgical Apparatus.

59 vouchers for the supply, alteration and repair of special boots, leg instruments, spinal supports and other splints have been issued.

At the end of the year apparatus was being worn by the undermentioned number of children :—

Surgical boots and leg instruments ...	11
Ordinary boots wedged or otherwise altered ...	135
Surgical boots ...	21
Spinal supports ...	7
Artificial limbs ...	5
Other ...	2
	<hr/>
	181
	<hr/>

(v.) Services of Orthopædic Nurses.

The nurses made 3568 visits to children of school age, an increase of over 700 on the previous year. A total of 6365 visits was made to all patients under the scheme.

(vi.) **Cases on the Register.**

There were 1248 cases on the current register at the end of the year. 653 of these have been examined on at least one occasion by the Orthopædic Surgeon, and 236 have received institutional treatment under the scheme.

The following table, giving the numbers of cases on the register at the end of the previous five years, shows the growth of the scheme:—

1938	...	...	...	...	1145
1937	...	...	...	...	989
1936	...	...	...	...	769
1935	...	...	...	...	594
1934	...	...	...	...	514

There were only 273 cases on the register at the end of 1928.

(vii.) **Cases discontinued.**

247 cases were removed from the register during the year. 84 of these were cured and 107 had improved to such an extent that no further treatment was necessary 26 removed from the County.

(viii.) **Evacuees.**

As routine medical inspection of school children was temporarily abandoned on the outbreak of war, only the most obvious orthopædic cases were reported. The following 13 cases were on the register at the end of the year:—

Flat feet and valgus ankles	...	...	...	9
Old injury	...	...	...	1
Claw feet	...	...	...	1
Congenital spinal deformity	...	...	...	1
Other	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> 13 <hr/>

One of these children was examined by the Orthopædic Surgeon, and one was wearing a spinal support.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The Organisers of Physical Education report as follows:—

1. **General.**

Until the outbreak of war in September, the year 1939 was one in which physical education had made more real advance than in any previous year. The increasing public interest shown in physical education following the Government's Fitness Campaign, had resulted in a considerable extension of physical recreation amongst adults, and further enthusiasm in the schools.

During the year all branches of the work have been supervised and the efforts of the Organisers have been well received with encouraging results. Altogether, some 571 visits to schools, evening classes, voluntary organisations, etc., have been made.

2. Elementary Schools.

(a) HALLS AND EQUIPMENT. During the year, the Education Committee's scheme of Re-organisation of Elementary Schools was further developed by the opening of the new Senior Schools at Stalham, Upwell, and Wymondham, and the addition of new halls at the West Walton and Litcham Area Schools.

There are now ten schools in the county with excellent new facilities for gymnastic work, and four more Senior Schools have been equipped with portable gymnastic apparatus. At the Wymondham Senior School a fully equipped gymnasium has been built in addition to the usual large hall, offering especially good opportunities for both school and recreational activities.

Extensions at the Old Buckenham Area School which are now in progress, will add a second hall to those premises also.

Shower baths are available at four of the new schools, and much has been done by the teachers to encourage their regular use by both boys and girls alike. Very promising results are reported, and a definite improvement has been seen in condition and type of clothing, as well as in personal cleanliness.

(b) PLAYING FIELDS. The number of Elementary Schools with satisfactory playing fields, although small, is slowly increasing.

Many schools continue to make excellent use of the meadows placed at their disposal by kindly landowners, or hired by the Committee.

(c) DANCING. This year, the Committee was able to arrange a new feature, through the willing co-operation of the Norfolk and Norwich branch of the English Folk Dance and Song Society.

Miss M. Culley, one of the local branch teachers of the Society, held a course of instruction in the teaching of country dancing for men and women teachers in the Dereham area. The course was well attended and greatly appreciated by the members, and the instruction should prove invaluable.

There is scope for the teaching of much more dancing in the schools, both English country and national dancing, and it is hoped that later it will be possible to arrange for further instructional classes of varying types.

In some of the new schools the mixed dancing classes taken with the Senior children have been very successful.

Infants' teachers are being encouraged to develop more valuable training in rhythmic work and simple dancing, when the weather makes it impossible for the daily afternoon period of activity to be taken out of doors.

(d) NORFOLK COUNTY SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION. The 1939 meeting was again held at the Norwich City Football Ground, and was well attended. Children from the three Senior Schools near Norwich gave a demonstration of modern physical training work under the direction of the Organisers. For 1940 the meeting has been abandoned.

3. The Training of Teachers.

This is perhaps the most important work which falls within the duties of the Organisers, and it is noted with great satisfaction that the response from the teachers has been very good indeed.

During 1939, courses of instruction have been held at the following centres. All classes have been well attended and much valuable work has been done :—

Thorpe ...	Women's Courses for Junior and Senior Teachers.
Hellesdon ...	Men's Course for Junior and Senior Teachers.
King's Lynn	Women's Course for Infant Teachers from the County and the Borough of King's Lynn.
Dereham ...	Country Dancing Course for men and women teachers, taken by Miss M. Culley (see full report above).

The further classes which had been arranged for the autumn were unfortunately cancelled as a result of the outbreak of war.

4. Recreative Physical Training with Adolescents and Adults.

(a) LEADERS' TRAINING COURSES. Training Courses for women leaders of Keep-Fit classes have been held at North Walsham and Downham Market, and short refresher courses were arranged at Fakenham and Wymondham for leaders from those areas who had attended a full course during the previous year.

The men's leaders' training course at Fakenham was completed at the beginning of the year, and a further course for men was held at Wymondham, where the excellent facilities for the new Senior School were greatly appreciated. At the end of the latter course a public demonstration was given.

(b) EVENING INSTITUTE CLASSES. Evening Institute Classes in Physical Training continued satisfactorily throughout the early part of the year, 44 classes being taken at 22 centres.

In the summer, it was pleasing to find a development of the winter Keep-Fit Classes into summer outdoor games groups at five centres for girls and women, and four centres for boys and men. It is hoped that much more will be done on these lines in the future.

(c) GRANT-AIDED CLASSES. In addition to the regulation Evening Institute Classes in Physical Training, there are now many grant-aided classes in the County, the majority of which are taken by leaders who have attended one of the training courses arranged by the Committee. These groups are run on less formal lines than those under the Evening Institute scheme, and their increasing number has been proof of their popularity. During the year, grants have been paid to 24 centres, representing classes over a wide area of the County. There are other voluntary classes which are self-supporting.

5. War-time Conditions in the Schools.

At the beginning of September when the schools re-opened, new problems arising from the considerable influx of evacuees, had to be faced. Some 18,000 children were received into the Norfolk Schools, and it was at first necessary for several schools to adopt the "double-shift" system. Fortunately, the early autumn weather was most favourable for outdoor physical training and games, and much time was spent in the open air.

During the following months, it was possible, with the use of additional accommodation, for the majority of the schools to return to full sessions, and in many schools classes of Norfolk and evacuated children have now been amalgamated. Teachers and children in the schools which have been visited by the Organisers are working together happily, and normal physical training is being carried on.

Club-work and out-of-school activities have been organised in many centres.

M. W. SEGGER (Miss).
J. WILKINSON.

PROVISION OF MEALS.

Milk in Schools Scheme.

The following table shows the extent to which milk has been provided for Norfolk children :—

Month.	MILK PAID FOR BY PARENTS			MILK PAID FOR BY COMMITTEE		
	No. of Depts.	No. of Children.	No. of ¼rd pint bottles.	No. of Depts.	No. of Children.	No. of ¼rd pint bottles.
January	... 269	13409	197654	... 109	505	9823
February	... 272	14119	230775	... 110	537	12024
March	... 271	12816	283868	... 111	553	14992
April	... 270	14035	173199	... 112	564	9315
May	... 264	14108	267228	... 114	577	14927
June	... 258	13080	236066	... 115	575	14432
July	... 257	12902	234421	... 117	595	14784
August	... 201	9642	43863	... 105	522	3991
September	... 233	14173	176068	... 109	524	9856
October	... 263	17026	317678	... 117	545	14827
November	... 276	17831	343208	... 120	563	15590
December	... 279	17029	251843	... 123	581	12142
			2755871			146703

204,366 more bottles were paid for by parents than in 1938, and 38,763 more bottles were supplied free.

Detailed statistics are not available in respect of the milk supplied to evacuated children, but the numbers who received free milk were :—

September	... 54
October	... 198
November	... 403
December	... 379

Provision of other forms of extra nourishment.

Other forms of extra nourishment continue to be provided free in necessitous cases where such nourishment is recommended by the Assistant Medical Officers. Grants are also made upon the recommendations of School Nurses and General Practitioners, pending a visit by an Assistant Medical Officer. The following table shows the extent to which free Cod Liver Oil, etc., has been granted during the year :—

Nourishment.	No of cases.			Total amount provided.	
	Native.	Evacuee.		Native.	Evacuee.
Cod Liver Oil ...	28	2	...	516 ozs.	40 ozs.
Maltoline ...	37	9	...	132 lbs.	27 lbs.
Maltoline with Iron	16	8	...	63 lbs.	24 lbs.
Parrish's Food ...	19	9	...	620 ozs.	180 ozs.
Virol ...	46	2	...	228 lbs.	8 lbs.
Glucose D. ...	5	—	...	10 lbs.	—
Halibut Liver Oil ...	3	—	...	60 ccs.	—
Minadex ...	—	1	...	—	32 ozs.

151 Norfolk and 31 evacuated children benefited under this scheme, the number of Norfolk children being more than double that for the previous year. 71 Norfolk and 23 evacuated children were still in receipt of extra nourishment at the end of the year.

9 lbs. of Virol were also supplied during the year to a child dealt with by the Committee under the Children and Young Persons Act.

School Dinners.

These are provided at most of the Senior Schools. During 1940 this question has been carefully considered, and steps have been taken to increase the facilities available.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTARY BODIES.

I would again record appreciation of the co-operation afforded by the many people, apart from the staff of the School Medical Service, upon which depends the measure of success of the Service in its various activities. This particularly applies to the difficult period from September onwards, when the work was very much disorganised.

BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

20 deaf or partially deaf children and 13 blind or partially blind were on the books of the East Anglian School for Blind and Deaf Children, Gorleston-on-Sea, at the end of the year, although some of them did not return after the outbreak of war until January, 1940. In addition, two deaf children who were in attendance until July had not resumed at the time of writing this report. 5 of the 33 children were first admitted during the year.

The appointment of Dr. R. Louis Rose as psychiatrist to the Committee was terminated on 31st July.

During the 13 months' survey of Norfolk children, 973 cases of suspected mental defect were examined and classified as follows :—

Idiots	...	...	...	...	...	6
Imbeciles	...	...	...	...	...	50
Imbeciles and unstable	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ineducable feeble-minded	...	...	...	...	...	19
Educable feeble-minded	...	...	...	...	...	276
Educable feeble-minded and unstable	...	...	...	...	...	49
Backward	...	...	...	...	...	88
Backward and unstable	...	...	...	...	...	26
Dull	...	...	...	...	...	362
Dull and unstable	...	...	...	...	...	66
Unstable	...	...	...	...	...	14
Observation	...	...	...	...	...	8
No mental defect	...	...	...	...	...	6
Insane	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/> 973 <hr/>

The findings in 65 cases were checked by an alternative series of tests, and in 18 instances the children were re-tested after an interval of 9—12 months.

Owing to the outbreak of war, much necessary following up and the continuation of ascertainment had to be suspended.

31 children between the ages of 7 and 16 years were notified to the Local Authority under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928. These were :—

		Male.		Female.
Incapable of receiving benefit from instruction in a Special School	Idiots	1	...	1
	Imbeciles	17	...	7
	Others	1	...	3
“Special circumstances” cases		1	...	1
		<hr/> 20 <hr/>		<hr/> 11 <hr/>

2 feeble-minded and 5 epileptic cases were being maintained at Certified Special Schools during the year.

Information concerning the treatment of crippled children will be found under the paragraphs headed “Orthopædic Treatment.”

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.
(Including Pupil Teacher Centres.)

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The arrangements for medical inspection proceeded on the usual lines for the first two terms. In the Autumn Term, however, no inspections were arranged. Particulars of the number of pupils examined and the defects noted will be found on pages 27 to 29.

MEDICAL TREATMENT.

(Figures in brackets refer to evacuees and are included in the corresponding figures not in brackets.)

The undermentioned treatment has been arranged through the Committee's Scheme :—

	Eye Examinations.
(a) Vouchers issued on—	
Ophthalmic Specialists	20
(b) By Assistant Medical Officers	80 (18)

Glasses were supplied in 88 (18) of these cases.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Statistics relating to dental treatment will be found on page 30.

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.

(Figures in brackets refer to Evacuees and are included in corresponding figures not in brackets.)

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

TABLE I.—RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Year ended 31st December, 1939.

A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups—

Entrants	2579	
Second Age Group	2420	
Third Age Group	2376	
TOTAL	—	7375
Number of other Routine Inspections	—	—
GRAND TOTAL	—	7375

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ...	21007
--	-------

C.—Children found to require Treatment.

Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require Treatment (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

Group.	For defective vision (excluding squint).	For all other conditions recorded in Table II A.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	10	310	316
Second Age Group	73	229	295
Third Age Group	57	132	185
Total (Prescribed Groups)	140	671	796
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—
Grand Total	140	671	796

TABLE II.
A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended
31st December, 1939.

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections. No. of Defects.		Special Inspections. No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treat- ment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treat- ment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin—				
Ringworm—				
Scalp ... ..	...	...	1	...
Body	2	1	5	...
Scabies	7	...	10 (7)	...
Impetigo	14	2	316 (165)	...
Other diseases (Non-Tuberculous) ...	36	19	280 (56)	1
Eye—				
Blepharitis	49	7	48 (9)	...
Conjunctivitis	7	1	5 (1)	...
Keratitis ... ..	...	...	...	...
Corneal Opacities	1	4	...	1 (1)
Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision and Squint)	8	13	55 (12)	5
Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ...	140	193	32 (16)	24 (19)
Squint	39	70	10 (5)	5 (2)
Ear—				
Defective Hearing	23	27	1	3
Otitis Media	16	28	54 (28)	1
Other Ear Diseases	5	6	25 (10)	...
Nose and Throat—				
Chronic Tonsillitis only	46	317	6 (1)	11 (1)
Adenoids only	44	60	4	...
Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids ...	78	183	6	1
Other Conditions	11	22	..	1
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tubercu- lous)	8	261	23 (7)	5
Defective Speech	3	34	..	1
Heart and Circulation—				
Heart Disease:				
Organic	5	24	..	2
Functional	1	36	...	...
Anæmia	45	9	2	1

TABLE II.—Return of Defects—(continued).

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections. No. of Defects.		Special Inspections. No. of Defects.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Lungs—				
Bronchitis	28	48	2	...
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ...	10	51	3	2
Tuberculosis—				
Pulmonary:				
Definite	2	3	...	...
Suspected	8	11	...	2 (1)
Non-Pulmonary:				
Glands	9	16	1	2
Bones and Joints	1	2	...	...
Skin ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other Forms	2	3	...	1
Nervous System—				
Epilepsy	2	6	3	4
Chorea	2	14	...	1
Other Conditions	2	7	...	2
Deformities—				
Rickets	14	19	...	1
Spinal Curvature	6	6	...	...
Other Forms	146	49	12 (2)	...
Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)	98	108	1105 (323)	12 (1)
TOTALS	918	1660	2009 (642)	89 (25)

B.—Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups up to 31st August.

Age-groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	2579	366	14·2	1850	71·7	354	13·7	9	0·3
Second Age-group	2420	354	14·6	1664	68·8	394	16·3	8	0·3
Third Age-group ...	2376	478	20·0	1559	65·6	333	14·0	6	0·3
Other Routine Inspections ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	7375	1198	16·2	5073	68·8	1081	14·7	23	0·3

TABLE IV.—RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1939.

TREATMENT TABLES.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table VI.)

Defect or Disease.	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Skin—			
Ringworm—Scalp—			
(i) X-Ray Treatment ...	4	...	4
(ii) Other Treatment ...	34 (6)	1	35 (6)
Ringworm—Body ...	33 (7)	3	36 (7)
Scabies ...	106 (65)	5	111 (65)
Impetigo ...	1227 (576)	6	1233 (576)
Other Skin Disease ...	502 (129)	11	513 (129)
Minor Eye Defects ...	278 (67)	15	293 (67)
(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)			
Minor Ear Defects ...	187 (95)	8	195 (95)
Miscellaneous ..	2705 (1001)	12	2717 (1001)
(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)			
TOTALS ...	5076 (1946)	61	5137 (1946)

TABLE IV.—Return of Defects—(continued).

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.)

	Number of Defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme.		Otherwise.	Total.
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint)	748	(34)	22	770 (34)
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	4		4	8
TOTALS	752	(34)	26	778 (34)
No. of Children for whom spectacles were				
(a) Prescribed	599	(28)	12	611 (28)
(b) Obtained	566	(15)	4	570 (15)

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

Number of Defects.												Received other Forms of Treatment.	Total Number Treated.
Received Operative Treatment.													
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.				By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.				Total.					
(1)				(2)				(3)				(4)	(5)
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)		
2	3	355(2)	...	34	4	16	8	36	7	371(2)	8	82	504 (2)

(i) Tonsils only; (ii) Adenoids only; (iii) Tonsils and Adenoids; (iv) Other defects.

Group IV.—Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

	Under the Authority's Scheme.			Otherwise.			Total number treated.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	
	Residential treatment with education.	Residential treatment without education.	Non-residential treatment at an orthopædic clinic.	Residential treatment with education.	Residential treatment without education.	Non-residential treatment at an orthopædic clinic.	
	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	
Number of children treated	18	50	8	...	...	3	68

TABLE V.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

1. Number of Children inspected by the Dentists.

(a) Routine age-groups—

Age	5 & under	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14 & over	Total
Number	4540	4046	4425	4567	4512	4663	4479	4137	3955	1662	40986

(b) Specials	784
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(c) TOTAL (Routines and Specials)	(5589)	41770
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2. Number found to require treatment	(1685)	23335
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3. Number actually treated	(951)	13435
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4. Attendances made by children for treatment	(1014)	15495
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5. Half-days devoted to:—

Inspection	(76)	604
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Treatment	(116)	2067
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Total	—	(192) 2671
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6. Fillings:—

Permanent Teeth	(1)	4894
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Temporary Teeth	(38)	155
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Total	—	(39) 5049
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7. Extractions:—

Permanent Teeth	(291)	3495
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Temporary Teeth	(1291)	21804
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Total	—	(1582) 25299
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8. Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions	552
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9. Other Operations:—

Permanent Teeth	(115)	13697
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Temporary Teeth	(636)	5437
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Total	—	(751) 19184
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TABLE VI.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i) Average number of visits per school made during the year
by the School Nurses 5.5

(ii) Total number of examinations of children in the }
Schools by School Nurses... .. (31861) 171692

(iii) Number of *individual* children found unclean ... (2891) 4546

(iv) Number of *individual* children cleansed under Section 87 (2)
and (3) of the Education Act, 1921 —

(v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:—

(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 —

(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws 1

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

(Including Pupil Teacher Centres.)

TABLE I.—RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Year ended 31st December, 1939.

A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	31	
Yearly Examinations			...	...	1248	
Leavers	...	...	...	...	48	
			TOTAL	...	—	1327

Number of other Routine Inspections	...	...				—
			GRAND TOTAL	...		1327

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	2	
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	386	
TOTAL	...	...	...	—	388

C.—Children found to require Treatment.

Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require Treatment (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

Prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	7
Yearly Examinations			...	...	117
Leavers	...	...	...	...	1

Total (Prescribed Groups)	...	...	...	125
Other Routine Inspections	...	...	...	—
				—
		GRAND TOTAL	...	125

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

(Including Pupil Teacher Centres.)

TABLE II.

**A. Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended
31st December, 1939.**

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
	No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin—				
Ringworm—				
Scalp ... ..	...	...	...	...
Body ... ..	...	...	...	...
Scabies ... ..	...	...	...	...
Impetigo ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other diseases (Non-Tuberculous) ...	26	7	...	...
Eye—				
Blepharitis	7	1	...	...
Conjunctivitis	2	...	...	...
Keratitis ... ..	...	...	...	...
Corneal Ulcer ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision and Squint)	2	1	...	...
Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ...	40	19	...	...
Squint	1	...	...	...
Ear—				
Defective Hearing	1	...	...	...
Otitis Media	1	1	1	...
Other Ear Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...
Nose and Throat—				
Chronic Tonsillitis only	5	14	...	...
Adenoids only	3	2	...	...
Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids ...	4	2	...	...
Other Conditions	1	...	1	...
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ... ..	...	4	...	...
Defective Speech	1	1	...	...
Heart and Circulation—				
Heart Disease :				
Organic ... ..	...	3	...	...
Functional	1	9	...	...
Anæmia ... ..	...	1	...	...

TABLE II.—Return of Defects—(continued).

Defect or Disease. (1)	Routine Inspections.		Special Inspections.	
	No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Lungs—				
Bronchitis ... ..	...	2	...	...
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ...	...	5	...	...
Tuberculosis—				
Pulmonary:				
Definite ... ..	...	...	...	...
Suspected ... ..	...	...	...	...
Non-Pulmonary:				
Glands	1	...	...	...
Bones and Joints ... ..	...	...	...	...
Skin ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other Forms	3	...	...	...
Nervous System—				
Epilepsy	1	...	...	...
Chorea ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other Conditions ... ..	...	...	...	...
Deformities—				
Rickets ... ..	...	...	...	...
Spinal Curvature	3	7	...	...
Other Forms	15	13	...	...
Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Un- cleanliness and Dental Diseases) ...	8	10	...	...
TOTALS	126	102	2	...

B.—Classification of the Nutrition of Pupils Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

Age-groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	31	9	29·03	19	61·29	3	9·68	...	...
Yearly Examinations ...	1248	237	18·99	933	74·76	78	6·25	...	...
Leavers	48	12	25·00	35	72·92	1	2·08	...	...
Other Routine In- spections ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	1327	258	19·44	987	74·38	82	6·18	...	..

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

(Including Pupil Teacher Centres.)

TABLE V.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

1. Number of pupils inspected by the Dentists.

Age-groups—

Age ... Number	Under 12	12	13	14	15	16	over 16	Specials	Total
	187	234	261	279	248	110	39	57	(172) 1415

2. Number found to require treatment ... (133) 732

3. Number actually treated ... (123) 474

4. Attendances made by children for treatment ... Not available

5. Half-days devoted to:—

Inspection	...	...	...	...	(1) 18
Treatment	...	...	...	...	(6) 98
Total	..				— (7) 116

6. Fillings:—

Permanent teeth	...	...	...	...	(14) 647
Temporary teeth	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...				— (14) 649

7. Extractions:—

Permanent teeth	...	...	...	...	(145) 348
Temporary teeth	...	...	...	...	(21) 124
Total	..				— (166) 472

8. Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions 6

9. Other Operations:—

Permanent teeth	...	...	...	...	(56) 760
Temporary teeth	...	...	...	...	—
Total	...				— (56) 760

